

Linda S. Thibodeau

Director

Division of Libraries, Archives,
& Museums

www.eed.state.ak.us



Bruce Kato

Chief Curator

Alaska State Museums

395 Whittier St.
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1718
907.465.2901

Press Release

ALASKA STATE MUSEUM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: **January 9, 2009**

CHILL WITH THE FAMILY AT THE ALASKA STATE MUSEUM

Springboard and the Alaska State Museum invite families to a free afternoon event on January 17 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. with opportunities to explore some of the fascinating scientific aspects of winter as well as view and create winter-related art. Families will have an opportunity to:

- view ice crystals through polarized light,
- experience how blubber keeps a mammal warm,
- learn about unique fish adaptations to the cold,
- create snow goggles to prevent snow blindness and improve vision,
- learn how snowflakes form,
- create six-sided snowflakes inspired by actual snowflake images, and
- study how glaciers form.

Avalanche control experts and staff from the Juneau Ranger District Tongass National Forest, NOAA National Weather Service, Juneau Economic Development Council - Springboard, UAS, Alaska Dept. of Fish & Game, Canvas Community Art Studio and Gallery, and community volunteers will share their expertise on many “cool” aspects of winter, snow and ice.

“Chill with the Family” is being held in conjunction with the temporary photography exhibition *Frizion* on display at the museum through Feb 21. The photographs of ice crystals made using polarized light are the work of Dr. Peter Wasilewski, an astrophysicist at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Maryland.

Winter hours at the museum are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Admission is \$3. Visitors 18 and under are admitted free of charge. An annual pass that allows unlimited visits to the Alaska State Museum and the Sheldon Jackson Museum in Sitka is available for \$15. Assistance is available for visitors with special needs. Please contact Visitor Services at 465-2901 before the visit.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Lisa Golisek

Phone (907) 465-2901 Fax (907) 465-2976

www.museums.state.ak.us